

13281 U.S.PTO  
112003

NIT-308-03

03917 U.S.PTO  
10/716471

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: A. SANADA et al  
Serial No. 09/987,815  
Filed: November 16, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3627  
Examiner: F. Zender  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
RENTAL STORAGE SYSTEM

REQUEST FOR DIVISIONAL APPLICATION  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop Patent Application  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a request for filing a divisional application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/987,815, filed on November 16, 2001, entitled METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RENTAL STORAGE SYSTEM, by all of the inventors named in the prior application.

1. Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.

2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION  
LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW  
PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Basic Fee		\$ 770.00
Total Claims	18 - 20 = 0 x 18 =	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims	2 - 3 = 0 x 84 =	\$ 0.00
Total Filing Fee		\$ 770.00

3. A Credit Card Payment Form including the amount of \$770.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

3. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

7. New drawings are enclosed, twelve (12) sheets, Figs. 1-17.

8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174  
Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663  
John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293  
Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846  
Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

There is no change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.  
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370  
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**Please associate this application with Customer No. 24956.**

9. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.

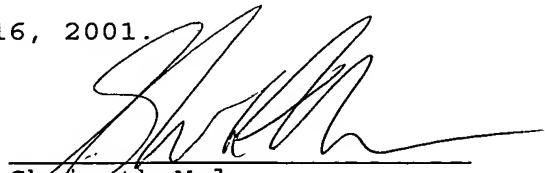
10. Priority of the following Japanese patent application is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 2001-117611, filed April 17, 2001.

The certified copy has been filed in the parent application.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed

in the present divisional application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 09/987,815, as originally filed on November 16, 2001.



Srinath Malur  
Registration No. 34,663  
Attorney of Record

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NIT-308  
NT0507US

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